United Nations E/CN.16/2018/1

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
28 February 2018

Original: English

Commission on Science and Technology for Development
Twenty-first session
Geneva, 14–18 May 2018
Item 1 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Provisional annotated agenda and organization of work

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters
2. Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels
3. Science and technology for development:

   Priority themes:

   (a) The role of science, technology and innovation in increasing substantially the share of renewable energy by 2030

   (b) Building digital competencies to benefit from existing and emerging technologies, with a special focus on gender and youth dimensions
4. Presentation of reports on science, technology and innovation policy reviews
5. Election of the Chair and other officers for the twenty-second session of the Commission
6. Provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-second session of the Commission
7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its twenty-first session

GE.18-03100(E)
1803100

Please recycle

Annotations

Item 1
Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

1. Rule 7 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council provides that commissions shall adopt, at the beginning of each session, the agenda of the session on the basis of the provisional agenda. The provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-first session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development were approved by the Council in its decision 2017/250 of 6 July 2017.

2. In accordance with the established practice, the Commission, at its eighth plenary meeting on 12 May 2017, elected by acclamation the Bureau of the twenty-first session, as follows:

Vice-Chairs: A. Min Tjoa (Austria)
Wang Ruijun (China)
Peter Major (Hungary)
Joseph Noël Etienne Ghislain Sinatambou (Mauritius)

3. The Commission postponed the election of the Chair from the Latin American and Caribbean States. Member States of the Latin American and Caribbean States endorsed the candidature of Mr. Plácido Gómez (Dominican Republic) on 4 August 2017 to serve as the Chair of the twenty-first session of the Commission. Mr. Gómez will be elected by the Commission at the first meeting of its twenty-first session on Monday, 14 May 2018 and, as per past practice, will act as Chair-designate prior to his election. In accordance with past practice of the Commission, one of the Vice-Chairs will be designated to also serve as Rapporteur.

4. The proposed organization of work of the Commission at its twenty-first session (see annex I) is based on relevant decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council to facilitate the consideration of agenda items within the time frame available and in accordance with the conference services allocated to the Commission. The timetable should be considered tentative and indicative; if the Commission completes its consideration of an item ahead of schedule, it may wish to proceed immediately to the next item.

5. The Commission is scheduled to meet from Monday to Friday, 14 to 18 May 2018. The morning meetings will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and the afternoon meetings, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

6. The current membership of the Commission is contained in annex II.

Contribution of the Commission to the 2018 Economic and Social Council high-level segment

7. General Assembly resolution 70/1, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", was adopted in September 2015. The Economic and Social Council will support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through its 2018 theme, "From global to local: supporting sustainable and resilient societies in urban and rural communities", in line with the 2018 focus of the high-level political forum, entitled "Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies".

8. Pursuant to the provisions contained in paragraphs 8 and 9 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 68/1,[1] a general discussion will be held on Monday, 14 May 2018, in the morning to address the role of science, technology and innovation in supporting sustainable and resilient societies. The session will identify ways to prioritize science,

[1] Entitled "Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/16 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council".

technology and innovation as part of national development strategies to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. In particular, it will provide an opportunity for high-level policymakers to exchange experiences, lessons learned and best practices in applying science, technology and innovation in the achievement of the set of Sustainable Development Goals to be reviewed under this theme:

- Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
- Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
- Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
- Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
- Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.
- Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

9. The Commission will have the opportunity to examine in depth the role of science, technology and innovation in contributing to Goal 7, when it examines priority theme 3 (a), the role of science, technology and innovation to increase substantially the share of renewable energy by 2030, on Wednesday, 16 May 2018.

10. The outcome of this discussion will be in the form of a Chair's summary to be submitted to the Economic and Social Council for its consideration during its high-level segment (16 to 19 July 2018).

Contribution of the Commission to the General Assembly discussion on the impact of rapid technological change on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals

11. The General Assembly, in its resolution 72/242, requested the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, through the Economic and Social Council, to give due consideration to the impact of key rapid technological changes on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. The Assembly further decided to continue discussing the topic of the impact of rapid technological change on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals during its seventy-third session. In response to this call, and to contribute to the General Assembly discussion, the Commission will hold a high-level round table, on the afternoon of Monday, 14 May 2018, on the impact of rapid technological change on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Documentation

E/CN.16/2018/1 Provisional annotated agenda and organization of work

Item 2
Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels

12. The World Summit on the Information Society, organized by the International Telecommunication Union on behalf of the United Nations, took place in two phases: the first, in Geneva (2003), the second, in Tunis (2005). In the Geneva Declaration of Principles, the first phase of the Summit adopted a common vision and commitment to building a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented information society. The second phase endorsed the outcomes of the first phase and adopted the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, which addressed, inter alia, the themes of financial mechanisms and Internet governance.

13. The Tunis Agenda for the Information Society requested the Economic and Social Council to oversee the United Nations system-wide follow-up of the outcomes of the Geneva and Tunis phases of the Summit. To that end, the Council was requested to review the mandate of the Commission, including its strengthening, taking into account the multi-stakeholder approach (Tunis Agenda, para. 105).

14. In its resolution 2006/46 of 28 July 2006 on the follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society and review of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, the Economic and Social Council decided that the Commission would effectively assist the Council as the focal point in the system-wide follow-up to the Summit outcomes and advise the Council thereon, including through recommendations to the Council aimed at furthering the implementation of the Summit outcomes.

15. In its resolution 2007/8 of 25 July 2007 on the flow of information for the follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society, the Economic and Social Council requested the Secretary-General to inform the Commission annually on the implementation of the outcomes of the Summit, including all e-applications. In this connection, the Council requested United Nations organizations acting as action-line facilitators, regional commissions, main theme facilitators, the Global Alliance for Information and Communications Technologies and Development, and other entities, as appropriate, to submit to the secretariat of the Commission their respective reports as inputs to the annual report of the Secretary-General to the Commission.

16. The report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels (A/73/66-E/2018/10) aims at providing an overview of the progress made in the implementation of the Summit outcomes, highlighting examples of good and effective practices, with a view to sharing those practices and the lessons learned.

17. The 2017 report was prepared based on the findings and recommendations of the Commission's panel discussion held in Geneva, Switzerland, in November 2017, on inputs by United Nations bodies and specialized agencies and on other relevant literature. The Commission will review and assess progress on the implementation of the Summit outcomes at the regional and international levels, as requested by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2006/46.

18. The Commission will also hear a briefing on the outcome of the Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation. General Assembly resolution 70/125, the outcome document of the 10-year review of implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society, requested the Chair of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to establish a working group to develop recommendations on further implementation of enhanced cooperation, as envisioned in the Tunis Agenda, and report to the Commission at its twenty-first session. The Working Group has met five times (30 September 2016, 26–27 January 2017, 3–5 May 2017, 25–27 September 2017, and 29–31 January 2018). The report of the Chair of the Working Group will be before the session.

Documentation

A/73/66-E/2018/10	Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels
E/CN.16/2018/CRP.1	Report on the intersessional panel meeting
E/CN.16/2018/CRP.2	Implementing World Summit on the Information Society outcomes, 2017
E/CN.16/2018/CRP.3	Report of the Chair of the Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation

Item 3
Science and technology for development

19. In its resolution 2006/46 (para. 4), the Economic and Social Council decided that the Commission should be the focal point in the system-wide follow-up of World Summit on the Information Society outcomes, while at the same time maintaining its original mandate on science and technology for development.

20. In accordance with this mandate, the Commission focuses in each annual cycle on two priority themes.

21. The priority themes under this item addressed by the Commission are as follows:

(a) The role of science, technology and innovation in increasing substantially the share of renewable energy by 2030

(b) Building digital competencies to benefit from existing and emerging technologies, with a special focus on gender and youth dimensions

22. In selecting these themes, the Commission envisaged that the findings would contribute to the high-level political forum on sustainable development, which will examine in 2018 the theme of transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies and the related Sustainable Development Goals, namely Goals 6, 7, 11, 12, 15 and 17.

23. In order to contribute to a further understanding of these themes, and to assist the Commission in its deliberations at its twenty-first session, a panel meeting was convened in Geneva, from 6 to 8 November 2017. The report on the panel discussion will be before the Commission.

Documentation

E/CN.16/2018/2	The role of science, technology and innovation in increasing substantially the share of renewable energy by 2030 Report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.16/2018/3	Building digital competencies to benefit from existing and emerging technologies, with a special focus on gender and youth dimensions Report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.16/2018/CRP.1	Report on the intersessional panel meeting

Item 4
Presentation of reports on science, technology and innovation policy reviews

24. This item concerns updates on national science, technology and innovation policy reviews undertaken by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, with a view to assisting developing countries in identifying the measures that are needed to integrate science, technology and innovation policies into their national development strategies, and the sharing of information about progress made, lessons learned and challenges encountered in implementing recommendations formulated in the context of earlier science, technology and innovation policy reviews, as per General Assembly resolution 70/213 and Economic and Social Council resolution 2016/23.

25. The Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2017/22, requested UNCTAD to broaden its framework for national science, technology and innovation policy reviews in order to integrate the Sustainable Development Goals, including a specific focus on bottom-of-the-pyramid approaches to innovation, and social inclusion.

26. The Commission will hear a presentation on ongoing work to update the science, technology and innovation policy review framework of UNCTAD, with a particular focus on the Sustainable Development Goals, which will be followed by an interactive panel discussion on related issues.

Item 5
Election of the Chair and other officers for the twenty-second session of the Commission

27. In accordance with established practice, the Commission will elect a Chair and four Vice-Chairs for the twenty-second session at the end of the twenty-first session. One of the Vice-Chairs will also serve as Rapporteur.

Item 6
Provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-second session of the Commission

28. In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission will have before it the draft provisional agenda for its twenty-second session, together with an indication of the documentation to be submitted for its consideration.

Item 7
Adoption of the report of the Commission on its twenty-first session

29. In accordance with rule 37 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions, the Commission shall submit to the Economic and Social Council a report on the work of its twenty-first session.

Annex I

Proposed organization of work

Date time	*Agenda item discussion topic*	*Programme*
Monday, 14 May		
10 a.m.	1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters	Opening statements
		Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
	The role of science, technology and innovation in supporting sustainable and resilient societies in urban and rural communities (contribution of the Commission to the 2018 theme of the Economic and Social Council)	General discussion
3 p.m.	The impact of key rapid technological changes on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (contribution of the Commission to the General Assembly discussion on the impact of rapid technological change on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals)	Introduction and high-level round table followed by an interactive dialogue
Tuesday, 15 May		
10 a.m.	2. Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels	Introduction of the report of the Secretary-General High-level round table followed by an interactive dialogue
3 p.m.	3. Science and technology for development Priority themes: (b) Building digital competencies to benefit from existing and emerging technologies, with a special focus on gender and youth dimensions	Introduction and general and interactive discussion
Wednesday, 16 May		
10 a.m.	4. Presentation of reports on science, technology and innovation policy reviews	Introduction followed by an interactive discussion
3 p.m.	3. Science and technology for development Priority themes: (a) The role of science, technology and innovation in increasing substantially the share of renewable energy by 2030	Introduction and general and interactive discussion

Date time	*Agenda item discussion topic*	*Programme*
Thursday, 17 May		
10 a.m.	Informal consultations	Introduction of draft proposals, followed by a discussion
3 p.m.	Informal consultations	Discussions on draft proposals (continued)
Friday, 18 May		
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Informal consultations	Discussions on draft proposals continued, as required
	5. Election of the Chair and other officers for the twenty-second session of the Commission	Election of officers
	Action on draft proposals	Adoption of the draft proposals
	6. Provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-second session of the Commission	Adoption of the draft provisional agenda for the next session
	7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its twenty-first session	Adoption of the draft report
	Closure of the session	

Annex II

Membership of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its twenty-first session

The Commission is composed of 43 members serving a four-year term.

	*Membership**	*Term expires on 31 December*
1	Angola	2018
2	Austria	2020
3	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	2018
4	Brazil	2020
5	Bulgaria	2018
6	Burkina Faso	2020
7	Cameroon	2020
8	Canada	2018
9	Chile	2020
10	China	2018
11	Côte d'Ivoire	2018
12	Cuba	2018
13	Democratic Republic of the Congo	2020
14	Dominican Republic	2018
15	El Salvador	2020
16	Germany	2020
17	Hungary	2020
18	India	2018
19	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	2018
20	Japan	2020
21	Kazakhstan	2020
22	Kenya	2018
23	Latvia	2018
24	Mauritania	2018
25	Mauritius	2018
26	Mexico	2020
27	Nigeria	2020
28	Pakistan	2018
29	Peru	2018

	*Membership**	*Term expires on 31 December*
30.	Poland	2018
31.	Portugal	2020
32.	Russian Federation	2020
33.	Saudi Arabia	2020
34.	South Africa	2020
35.	Sweden	2018
36.	Switzerland	2020
37.	Thailand	2018
38.	Turkey	2018
39.	Turkmenistan	2020
40.	Uganda	2018
41.	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2018
42.	United States of America	2018

* The Economic and Social Council postponed the election of one member from Western European and other States, whose membership would begin on the date of election and expire on 31 December 2020.